

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 21-29, 39, 41-49, 59-66, 75, 77-80, and 87-90 remain pending in this application. Claims 11-20, 30-38, 40, 50-58, 67-74, 76, 81-86, and 91-151 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10, 21-26, 39, 41, 42-45, 49, 59-63, 75, 77, 79, and 87-89 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 21, 39, 41, 59, 75, 77, and 87 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

As an initial matter, Applicant hereby affirms the election of the first species (Claims 1-10, 21-29, 39, 41-49, 59-66, 75, 77-80, and 87-90).

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 10, 21, 23-26, 28, 39, 41, 43-45, 47, 49, 59, 61-63, 65, 75, 77-80, and 87-90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ward et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,784,924). Claims 2, 7, 9, 22, 27, 29, 42, 46, 48, 60, 64, and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Ward et al.

Claim 1 is directed to an image sensing system comprising at least one image sensing apparatus and at least one communication apparatus. The communication apparatus includes transmission means for transmitting an operating status of a power source function of the communication apparatus to the image sensing apparatus. The image sensing apparatus includes image sensing means, reception means for receiving the operating status transmitted from the transmission means, first status determination means for determining the operating status of the power source function of the communication apparatus, which is received by the reception means, and display means for displaying the operating status of the power source function of the communication apparatus in accordance with a determination result obtained by the first status determination means.

By virtue of the features of Claim 1, a user can know from the display of a digital camera (for example) the status of a communication apparatus such as a cellular phone (for example) while he or she is using the digital camera. The status of the communication apparatus may be, for instance, a battery level and/or radio wave intensity, and is independent of the status and operation of the camera.

Ward et al., as understood by Applicant, relates to a network configuration file for automatically transmitting images from an electronic still camera. A network configuration file is generated at a host computer and downloaded to a digital camera. This file contains instruction information for communicating with a selected destination via a communications interface. The digital camera includes a "send" button or LCD icon which allows the user to transmit one or more images via a wired or wireless communications interface to a desired destination, which may be an Internet Service Provider or a digital photofinishing center. When the user selects this option, the communications port settings, user account specifics, and destination connection commands are read from the network configuration file on the removable memory card. Examples of these settings include serial port baud rate, parity, and stop bits, as well as account name and password.

Nothing in Ward et al. teaches or suggests transmitting an operating status of a power source function of a communication apparatus to an image sensing apparatus, as recited in Claim 1, much less displaying, on the image sensing apparatus, the operating status of the power source function of the communication apparatus, as also recited in Claim 1.

At column 3, lines 60-65 of Ward et al. (cited by the Examiner), it is stated that the service receiver interprets the system commands issued by the camera from the

network configuration file list and sends appropriate feedback (such as “transfer in progress” and “transfer complete”) which are interpreted by the camera and displayed on the LCD. Therefore, Ward et al. merely discusses that its service receiver sends feedback of the image transfer status of an image transferred from the camera such as “transfer in progress” and “transfer complete”, which is not the status of the service receiver itself. Nothing in Ward et al. teaches or suggests that the service receiver sends the status of power source function of the service receiver to the camera.

Applicant notes that at page 3 of the Office Action (specifically the last two lines of that page), the Office Action makes no mention, in discussing Claims 4 and 24, of the language formerly recited in those claims of “the operation status of said communication apparatus includes... an operating status of a power source function”. Moreover, there is no mention about an operating status of a power source function being disclosed or suggested in Ward et al.

Nothing in Ward et al. teaches or suggests transmitting an operating status of a power source function of a communication apparatus to an image sensing apparatus, as recited in Claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over Ward et al.

Independent Claims 21, 39, 41, 59, 75, 77, and 87 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 1 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over Ward et al. for reasons similar to those discussed above.

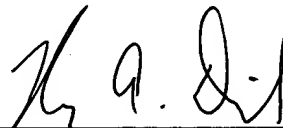
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond A. DiPerna
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 44,063

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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